

she grew up and eventually met her first husband, Mr. Thomas Sellner. Married for 28 years, Jeanette and Tom had six wonderful children.

Along with raising her four sons and two daughters, Jeanette served as a foster mother for many years, taking in and caring for children in need of a loving family. After the passing of her first husband, Jeanette eventually met and wed Mr. Marion Hutchison, and together they moved to Iowa, where she began her Congressional career as a staff member for Congressman Cooper Evans, and then for Senator CHARLES GRASSLEY.

Now a resident of Marietta, Georgia, Jeanette has served various Congressional offices for 25 years, acting as the constituent service director for the legendary Georgia Senator Paul Coverdell and Congressman Bob Barr before joining my staff in 2003.

Madam Speaker, Jeanette Hutchison has led a very inspiring and rewarding life. Over the years she has made and kept many friends, and I ask that you join with them, with me, and with her family in honoring Mrs. Jeanette Irene Hutchison, as she celebrates her 80th birthday. I thank her for a quarter century of service to our country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, on the morning of June 20, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be in the chamber for three rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 434, on approving the journal; "yea" on rollcall No. 435, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1276; and "yea" on rollcall No. 436, on agreeing to H. Res. 436.

Additionally, because of inclement weather on the evening of June 23, 2008, my flight was delayed, and I consequently missed two votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 438, passage of H. Res. 1242; and "yea" on rollcall 439, passage of H. Con. Res. 372.

FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT OF 2008—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110-125)

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of overriding the President's veto of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act, otherwise known as the Farm Bill. I am pleased to say that, with this vote, we have finally put this legislation behind us.

While I regret the problems that occurred with the formal parchment and the missing Trade Title of the Farm Bill, the time between consideration of the first veto override vote and this one allowed many Members of Con-

gress time to read the floor statements of many of our distinguished colleagues and understand better this large, complex and important piece of legislation. I am particularly grateful that the distinguished Members from California, Mr. BACA and Mr. BERMAN, clarified several particularly important provisions in the Nutrition Title of the bill. I would like to fully associate myself with their remarks. Following those Members' lead, I will not waste my colleagues' time by restating points they previously made on this legislation.

I want to emphasize, however, that if ever there was any doubt about Congress's continued support for the availability of judicial recourse for violations of food assistance statutes and regulations, this legislation makes that support unmistakably clear. The Food Stamp Act long has explicitly recognized the right of prospective applicants, actual applicants, and recipients to go to court to secure compliance with the statute and regulations. No court needs to guess about the view of Congress on this matter.

This new legislation reiterates that Congress will regulate how such litigation takes place. But there can be no question that litigation should, in fact, be permitted to occur if necessary. Such suits historically have not been required to pass any special hurdles of procedure or proof; all that matters is whether the statute, regulations, or state plan has been violated. If such a violation has occurred, the courts can pursue correction in the most efficacious manner, provided that we have limited the availability of retroactive benefits to one year before the problem was or should have been discovered. Rules developed under statutes where congressional intent is unclear have no place under food assistance legislation where we have left no room for doubt about our intentions.

As my colleagues from California made clear, the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act properly rejects two recent cases where courts, no doubt with the best of intentions, strayed from this long-time principle in the Food Stamp Program. This legislation clarifies that states are accountable for the results they achieve, namely a well-run food assistance program, and may be held judicially accountable for that. I trust this will eliminate any doubts other courts might have this score.

As Members are aware, the Farm Bill conferees did not accept a House provision that would have shut down all efforts to expand private contractors' role in administering the Food Stamp Program. Serious concerns have been raised about initiatives in a couple of states. Part of the reasoning was that the statute already contains requirements that state civil servants make all decisions relating to a household's participation in the program. As of yet, the policies of those states have not been tested in court. Without in any way seeking to prejudge what the results of such litigation might be, a judicial ruling on how these practices measure up against existing law would be of great help to us in determining whether that law needs to be modified, whether in the manner the House suggested or otherwise. As I understand there is considerable dissatisfaction with these programs, and I hope that the steps we are taking to clarify households' right to challenge the administration of the program in court will allow those concerns to be raised and addressed without further delay.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD:

Requesting Member: Congressman ROSCOE G. BARTLETT.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: RTD&E, Army, Combat Vehicle and Automotive Advanced Technology.

Legal Name of Requesting Facility: Mack Trucks, Inc., Volvo Powertrain North America.

Address of Requesting Facility: 13302 Pennsylvania Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21742.

Description of Request: The requested fund will be used to build, test, and evaluate up to five heavy tactical trucks with hybrid electric power trains. The program's goal is to provide the military with a more fuel efficient, cleaner, and easily maintained heavy truck power train. A secondary goal is to provide a truck engine that can provide the same electricity source as a traditional diesel generator.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROSCOE G. BARTLETT.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: RTD&E, Air Force, Multiple UAS cooperative concentrated observation and engagement systems against a common ground objective.

Legal Name of Requesting Facility: Proxy Aviation Systems.

Address of Requesting Facility: 12850 Middlebrook Road, Germantown, MD 20874.

Description of Request: The proposed program will provide the U.S. military with an advanced ISR capability to find and identify terrorist activity more rapidly and with a greater level of accuracy. The system will result in a lower cost of procurement and life cycle cost due to reduced manpower.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROSCOE G. BARTLETT.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: O & M, Navy, Operating Forces, Weapons Support, Weapons Maintenance.

Legal Name of Requesting Facility: Otomelara North America, Inc.

Address of Requesting Facility: 1625 I Street North West, Washington, DC 20006.

Description of Request: Increasing O&M funding for the Mk75 weapon will boost performance of the post-groomed guns, reducing out-of-service down time, and raising overall reliability for the Navy. The FFG-7's Mk75 76mm gun possesses adequate range for effective engagement, but critical funding shortfalls in maintenance assessment/grooming and parts support have kept the guns from operating with the requisite readiness to be as effective as possible against the surface.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROSCOE G. BARTLETT.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: RDT&E, Army, Warfighter Technology.

Legal Name of Requesting Facility: Engineering Systems Solutions.

Address of Requesting Facility: 5726 Industry Lane, Frederick, MD 21704.

Description of Request: This project expedites the repair of urgently needed battlefield equipment, thereby increasing the mission capable level of aircraft and vehicle units. This